

HERTELL BUILDING

LEHI BAKERY

Constructed: 1929

Address: 164 West Main

Present owner: Brent Tuckett

The brick building featured here was built in 1929 as the world descended into the depths of the Great Depression. There had been an earlier building at that location, however, where commerce was conducted for more than half-a-century.

The original structure, a frame building, was built in 1874 by goldsmith Gudmund Gudmundson who had purchased the property from the Lehi Union Exchange. He remained in business until the early 1880s. He then moved to Logan where he died in 1883.

His son Isaac retained ownership of the Lehi building, leasing it to the proprietors of the Lehi Drug Store--Dr. Calvin Seabright, then David Ellingson, and then later Bert Merrihew. In 1898 Gudmundsen sold the building to Hans Hammer. For a time it served as a residence. Realtor Edward Southwick purchased it for a real estate office in 1908. Carl Hertell purchased the property in early 1928 and built the structure still standing on the site the following year.

Swedish emigrant Carl J.E. Hertell was deaf as was his wife Amelia Comer. Together they operated several shoe repair shops and ice cream parlors in Lehi. Hertell learned the businesses from his father-in-law Heber Comer who was a master of both trades.

Hertell's "Modern Shoe Shop" remained in business at 164 West Main until Amelia Comer died in 1930. Carl then remarried and moved to Heber. The first tenant of the vacated building was barber Val Zimmerman. Three months later beautician La Rene Andrews opened a beauty shop to share overhead expenses with Zimmerman. Eva Anderson assumed Andrews' interests in 1937. Carl Hertell sold his building to developer William Kirkham in 1937. Kirkham

then sold to Val Zimmerman in 1942. Local plumber, Leo J. Ball, bought it in 1947.

Lehi's marshall at the time described Leo's Place, a beer joint, as a constant scene of rowdyism and yes, please gabrawls. After receiving numerous complaints, police officers Lee Marshall and Ray Edwards raided the place at 11:15 p.m. on December 26, 1953. They discovered a host of liquor violations, including glasses of whiskey on the bar, liquor bottles in a trash can, a half-empty whiskey bottle on the premises, and patrons consuming whiskey and mixed drinks.

Following the raid the city revoked Leo's business license, but lost the court case against the joint's manager. The liquid evidence in the glasses had evaporated, and the city failed to prove intent, or that the defendant knew that liquor was being consumed in Leo's Place.

Building owner Ball sold the controversial property to J.E. Strong in 1955. A new beer parlor, The Roundup, opened shortly thereafter. In 1964 Melvin Anderson bought the place from Strong and maintained "Mel's Kustom Karpentry and Supply" on the premises for two years. From 1966 until 1969, Anderson leased the site to Abe Evans, and later his wife, who both managed a State Liquor Store on the premises.

Anderson sold the property to Arden Tuckett in March of 1969. Tuckett, who a year earlier had opened his Lehi Bakery one door west, removed the shared wall between the two buildings and opened a pizzeria at 164 West Main and 172 West Main housed the Lehi Bakery.

In 1977 Tuckett went to work in Salt Lake City and leased his Lehi business. But by August of 1979 the Tucketts had resumed management. Their bakery has been a family operation from the start--master bakers all. Brent Tuckett is the present owner.